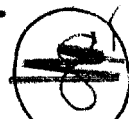


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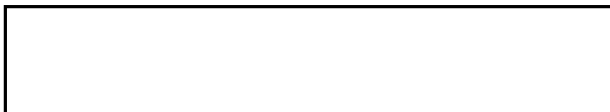
MEMORANDUM

The Situation in Vietnam

NSA review completed

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Information as of 1600
4 January 1967

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HIGHLIGHTS

Sixteen additional North Korean pilots have been noted in the DRV on 2 and 3 January. This brings to 37 the number of Korean pilots estimated to be in North Vietnam. A third Chinese Communist AAA unit may now be in North Vietnam.

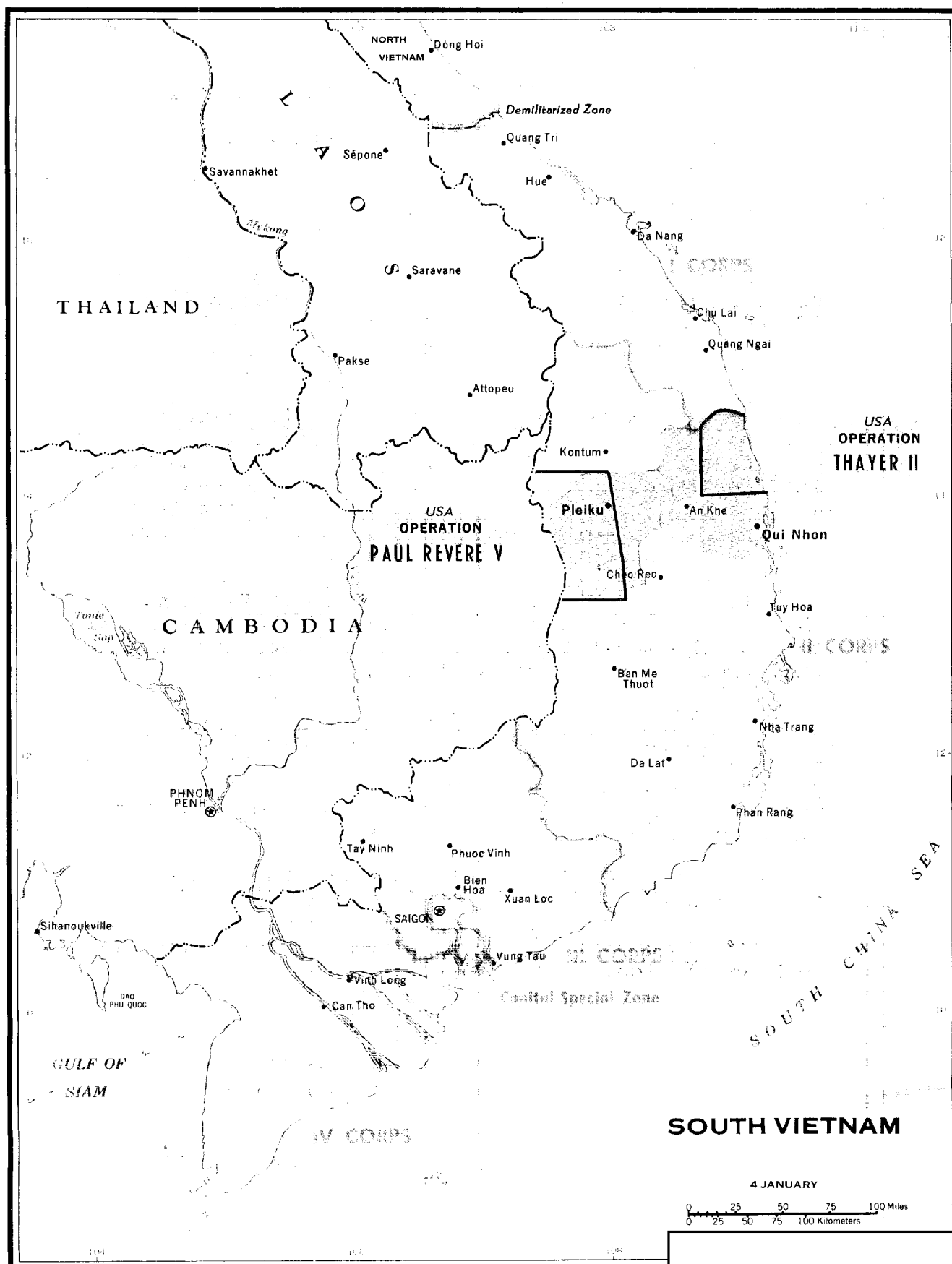
I. The Military Situation in South Vietnam:
Elements of the US 1st Air Cavalry Division participating in Operation THAYER II in coastal Binh Dinh Province reported two encounters with enemy forces on 4 January (Paras. 1-2). A US brigade headquarters was shelled by 40 mortar rounds late on 3 January; nine Americans were wounded (Para. 3).

II. Political Developments in South Vietnam:
The Constituent Assembly has approved the fundamental form of the constitution and will probably present the first draft this week (Paras. 1-2).

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IV. Other Communist Military Developments:
There is nothing of significance to report.

V. Communist Political Developments: There is nothing of significance to report.



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I. THE MILITARY SITUATION IN SOUTH VIETNAM

1. Nine soldiers of the US 1st Air Cavalry Division were wounded early on 4 January when their company was attacked by an enemy force of undetermined size. The company, part of Operation THAYER II, was on patrol about 41 miles northwest of Qui Nhon in coastal Binh Dinh Province. US artillery and air strikes were directed against the attackers. Enemy losses are unknown.

2. In another action several miles to the northwest, a US platoon encountered an estimated company-size enemy force in well dug-in positions. The US platoon was on a ground follow-up in an area which B-52s had struck earlier. Three American companies reinforced the US platoon. One American was killed and five wounded in a five-hour battle. Enemy losses in this engagement are unknown.

3. A US brigade headquarters 25 miles west of Pleiku city in Pleiku Province was attacked late on 3 January by a Communist force which shelled the installation with 40 rounds of mortar fire. The headquarters, part of Operation PAUL REVERE V, directed mortar and artillery fire against the enemy mortar positions. Nine Americans were wounded; enemy casualties are unknown.

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II. POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTH VIETNAM

1. On 3 January the Constituent Assembly approved the outline of basic principles it will follow over the next three months in drafting the constitution. The drafting committee's outline calls for a preamble and the following nine chapters: basic provisions; rights and duties of citizens (bill of rights); legislative branch of government; executive branch of government; judicial branch of government; advisory councils; political parties and legal opposition; constitutional amendments; and transitional provisions. This outline is the result of several weeks of debate in the assembly and reflects the voting on the individual issues.

2. It was initially envisioned that there would be four equal branches of government--legislative, judicial, executive, and an inspectorate. The deputies, however, decided against according an inspectorate the same level of authority as the other three branches. Some type of inspectorate will, however, possibly be subordinated to the legislature in the final version of the constitution. With the basic outline approved, the assembly has adjourned to allow the various subcommittees time to prepare a first draft of the constitution. Debate on that draft will probably take place in about a week.

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